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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/930,655	08/15/2001	Erik De Meersman	BE 000015	1915

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

TOPGYAL, GELEK W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/930,655	DE MEERSMAN, ERIK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Gelek Topgyal	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/15/2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because the elements within the drawings need to be labeled. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aaltonen and in further view of Singh.

Claim 1 teaches a circuit (2) for generating a composite output picture signal (6) such as a picture signal (36) comprising a PIP (Picture-in Picture) signal (38), or a DW (Double Window) signal, on the basis of at least two input picture signals (4.1, 4.2), the circuit comprising:

- color decoding means (8) for decoding the at least two input picture signals (4.1, 4.2), the color decoding means (8) comprising combining means (14) for combining the at least two input picture signals into one combined picture signal (16) (Aaltonen teaches a PIP system which has an input from the front end 551 that is already combined, but fails to teach a means for combining at least two input signals. Singh teaches in col. 4, lines 27-38 of a PIP DSP processor 65 that combines two signals into one. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine two signals into one

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and incorporate it into Aaltonen's system to allow for multiple signals as inputs into the system); and

- composing means (10) for generating the composite output picture signal (6) on the basis of the single decoded combined picture signal (12) (Aaltonen describes in col. 6, lines 12-18 and col. 4, lines 26-45 of TS de-multiplexers 541 and 542 that outputs several videos to a PIP unit 230 that combines these signals into one.)

Claim 2 teaches a circuit according to claim 1, wherein the combining means (14) comprise a multiplexer for time-multiplexing the at least two input picture signals (4.1, 4.2) so as to obtain the one combined picture signal (16).

Aaltonen teaches a PIP system which has an input from the front end 551 that is already multiplexed, but fails to teach a means for multiplexing two signals together. Singh teaches in col. 4, lines 27-38 of a PIP DSP processor 65 that combines two signals into one by way of a multiplexer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to multiplex two signals and incorporate the multiplexed signal as inputs into Aaltonen's system because multiplexing allows for multiple signals to be transmitted in a single channel.

Claim 3 teaches a circuit according to claim 2, wherein the multiplexer comprises a buffer-memory.

Aaltonen teaches a PIP system which uses only one decoder, but fails to teach of a multiplexer that comprises a buffer-memory. Singh teaches in Fig. 5, of a memory

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device 56 that is connected to the PIP DSP processor (which does the multiplexing) by way of element 53. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a buffer memory to allow for temporary storage of data.

Claim 4 teaches a circuit according to claim 1, wherein the composing means (10) comprise a de-multiplexer (26) for the time de-multiplexing of the decoded combined picture signal (12) into at least two decoded picture signals (30.1, 30.2) for further processing (28) to obtain the composite output picture signal (6).

Aaltonen teaches in col. 6, lines 16-18 of a de-multiplexer that extracts separate information from a multiplexed signal. The extracted information is then sent to the PIP unit 530 for further processing.

Claim 6 teaches a television apparatus provided with a circuit (2) according to claim 1, and a display device (D) for displaying the composite output picture signal (6).

Aaltonen teaches in Fig. 3 of a display device that displays the video signal (VDO) output by the single decoder PIP system.

Claim 7 teaches a video tape recorder provided with a circuit according to claim 1.

Aaltonen teaches a system that relates to a device and method for decoding a plurality of video signals using one decoder and mentions that a DVD can be a source of a signal, but fails to specifically mention that a VTR can be a source of video signal.

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Singh teaches in col. 2, lines 27-30 that a VCR can be a source of a video signal. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a video tape recorder as a source of video signal because it is common and conventional in the art.

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aaltonen and further in view of Singh, and further in view of Norsworthy.

Claim 5 teaches a circuit according to claim 4, wherein the composing means (10) further comprise a memory (24) and a micro-processor (28) for the further processing of the at least two decoded picture signals (30.1, 30.2)

The proposed combination of Aaltonen and Singh discloses all the limitations as discussed in claims 1 and 4 above, and further discloses a processor that controls the PIP unit 230 and a de-multiplexer that separates video signals (Aaltonen, col. 6, lines 33-47), but fails to teach of a memory device. Norsworthy teaches in col. 4, lines 18-24 of a memory device that is used in conjunction with a video processing unit 15 that displays picture-in-picture information. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a memory unit to allow for correction of time delay or for synchronizing multiple signals.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Boyce teaches of a digital picture in picture decoder that uses one encoder.

Hrusecky teaches a system for creating scaled videos from multiple sources using a multiplexer.

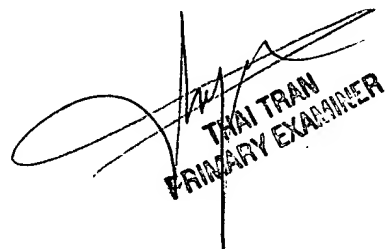
MacInnis teaches a system used to scale video for use with PIP.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gelek Topgyal whose telephone number is 517-272-8891. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am -5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GT



THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER